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SRI K. ARANGANATHAN :—" Sir, in view of the seriousness of the disease, why should not the Government open a hospital for Leprosy in South Arcot district? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" There are altogether 43 clinics in this district, Sir, distributed all over the district and the Mission to Lepers is maintaining a Leprosy Sanatorium with 210 beds. At Maduvanthangal there is another hospital with 43 beds."

SRI S. RAMALINGAM :—" தென் ஆற்காடு ஜில்லாவில் பல இடங்களில் தனிப்பட்டஸ்தாபனங்கள் குஷ்டரோக நிவராணம் செய்ய முயற்சி எடுத்து குஷ்டரோக நிவராண சங்கங்கள் ஏற்பட்டுள்ளன. அச்சங்கங்களுக்கு சர்க்கார் நிதி உதவி அளிக்க முன்வருமா? அச்சங்கங்களிலிருந்து ஏதாவது மனுக்கள் வந்திருக்கின்றனவா ? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Sir, District Boards, Municipalities and Panchayats have given contributions to the extent of Rs. 3,270 in 1951 and Rs. 5,814–13–0 in 1952. Government are giving help to the special scheme for leprosy control in the Tirukoilur area by making available to them the services of a Curative Clinic headed by a Civil Assistant Surgeon and a Preventive Unit headed by a Health Officer."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" Sir, is the Hon. Minister for Health aware of the fact that because the incidence of leprosy is high in South Arcot district and because the Government do not come to the aid of lepers in curing the disease by proper treatment, there is a great influx of them into Chingleput district and a big rush for admission into the Chingleput Sanatorium? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Yes, there is plenty of leprosy in several places in the State."

SRI V. R. NAGARAJAN :—" Sir, do the Government view that South Aroct has the highest incidence of leprosy? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Yes, Sir, there are many areas where leprosy is endemic to a high degree."

SRI V. R. NAGARAJAN :—" Sir, may I know whether the Government admit that South Arcot is *the most* affected area in the matter of leprosy? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" How does that add to the glory or credit of the State? We are doing all that is necessary."

Collection of fine for sivoijama occupation of lands in Gingee taluk.

* 201 *Q.*—SRI K. ARANGANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state the total amount of fine collected for sivoijama occupation of lands in Gingee taluk, South Arcot district, for fasli 1362?

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THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" The total amount of fines collected for sivoijama occupation in 923·80 acres of land in Gingee taluk for fasli 1362 was Rs. 7,545-9-0."

SRI K. ARANGANATHAN :—" தடை இல்லாமல் அனுபவித்து வரும் (Sivoījama) ஏழை மக்களின் நிலங்களை ஏன் சர்க்கார் அவர்களுக்கு ஜாரி செய்து கொடுக்கக்கூடாது ? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" Yes, Sir, that is being done, but the whole thing cannot be done in a short time."

Government Headquarters Hospital, Cuddalore.

* 202 *Q.*—SRI K. ARANGANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state the total number of beds in the Government Headquarters Hospital at Cuddalore in 1952?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" 160."

SRI K. ARANGANATHAN :—" Sir, do the Government consider it sufficient for the Headquarters Hospital at Cuddalore to have only a limited number of beds? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Sir, there is a proposal to increase the bed strength and employ additional staff in this hospital."

SRI A. GOVINDASWAMI NAYAGAR :—" கடலூர் தாலூக்காவிலுள்ள ஆஸ்பத்திரிகளில் வியாதிஸ்தர்கள் மழையாலும், குளிராலும் பாதிக்கப்பட்டு தாழ்வரத்திலேயே படுத்துக் கொண்டிருப்பது அரசாங்கத்திற்குத் தெரியுமா? அதற்கு வேண்டிய போதுமான நடவடிக்கை எடுக்க அரசாங்கம் முன்வருமா ? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Yes, Sir, it is so in most of the hospitals. All our hospitals are over-crowded."

SRI V. R. NAGARAJAN :—" Sir, I may bring to the notice of the Hon. the Minister for Health that everywhere in South Arcot district the number of patients is increasing out of proportion to the ability of the Government to maintain them. Would the Government take all possible steps to improve the conditions in the matter of buildings and also in the matter of staff in the hospitals in South Arcot? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Yes, Sir, every year the bed strength is increased in several of the hospitals, where it is found urgently necessary to provide additional accommodation and to the extent our funds permit."

Maintenance of the road from Gingee-Villupuram road to Ananthapuram.

* 203 *Q.*—SRI K. ARANGANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state under whose control the village road leading from 18/4 miles in Gingee-Villupuram road to Ananthapuram is?